

Appl. No. 10/691,744
Amdt. dated March 2, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicants received the Office Action dated December 2, 2005, in which the Examiner: 1) rejected claims 1, 5-10, 14-18 and 25-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Carn (U.S. Pat. No. 5,138,611, hereinafter "*Carn*"); 2) rejected claims 1, 5-10, 14-18 and 25-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Elwalid (U.S. Pat. No. 6,353,616, hereinafter "*Elwalid*"); and 3) rejected claim 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Horst (U.S. Pat. No. 5,867,501, hereinafter "*Horst*") in further view of Sindhu (U.S. Pat. No. 5,924,119, hereinafter "*Sindhu*"). With this Response, Applicants amend claim 25. Based on the arguments and amendment contained herein, Applicants believe this case to be in condition for allowance.

Independent claims 1 and 10 require, among other limitations, "a separate timer associated with each of said message types." Neither Carn nor Elwalid discloses such a feature. With regard to this alleged teaching in Carn, the Examiner focused on col. 8, lines 9-15, which provide:

These data processing devices include central processing units 54, 55, 56, 57, 58 and servers 59, 60 for magnetic tape drives 61, 62, 63, and mass data storage or disk memories 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69. In the usual case, the central processing units 54-58 are linked directly to high-speed printers 70, 71 or low-speed printers 72, 73 and numerous timesharing terminals (not shown), communications devices (not shown), and application-specific devices (not shown).

As is readily apparent from the above quoted passage of Carn, Carn does not disclose or even suggest "a separate timer associated with each of said message types." Applicants find no such teaching or suggestion elsewhere in Carn.

With regard to Elwalid, the Examiner focused on col. 4, lines 38-41, which provides: "Each router 104 and 105, upon processing of an UPDATE message, resets the corresponding refresh timer and propagates the UPDATE message." This passage clearly does not disclose that a separate refresh timer is associated with each of multiple message types. Applicants find no other disclosure in Elwalid for this claim limitation.

**Appl. No. 10/691,744
Amdt. dated March 2, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 2, 2005**

For at least these reasons, Applicants believe that independent claims 1 and 10 and their associated dependent claims are not anticipated by, nor rendered obvious over, Carn and Elwalid. No other art of record satisfies the deficiencies of Carn and Elwalid.

Applicants amend claim 25 to require that "said first timer is associated with said message of the first type and said second timer is associated with said message of the second type and said first and second types differ." As explained above, neither Carn nor Elwalid discloses having separate timers associated with different message types. The Examiner also alleges that the combination of Horst and Sindhu renders claim 25 obvious. Applicants find no teaching or suggestion in Horst or Sindhu of there being separate timers associated with different message types. For these reasons, Applicants believe that claim 25 and all claims dependent thereon are allowable.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,



Jonathan M. Harris
PTO Reg. No. 44,144
CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
(713) 238-8000 (Phone)
(713) 238-8008 (Fax)
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY
Intellectual Property Administration
Legal Dept., M/S 35
P.O. Box 272400
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400